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ABSTRACT

An improved ligature is provided for use on a mouthpiece of a woodwind-type musical instrument. The ligature comprises a flexible, trapezoidal body having two longitudinal slots, and a pair of ferrules terminating each end of the body. The body is a rubberized fabric with one side being smooth and the other defined by a textured pattern. A tightening mechanism draws the ferrules together and thereby tightens the flexible body about the mouthpiece of the instrument. Each of the ferrules is formed with a longitudinal notch, and the ends of the body terminate inside by crimping and/or gluing the body end inside. The operation of the tightening mechanism within the ferrules in combination with the flexible nature of the body serve to effectively isolate the instrument mouthpiece from direct contact with the ferrules, thereby improving tonal response. The instrument's tonality may be adjusted by placing the smooth or textured side of the body in direct contact with the instrument and varying the relative position of the body and ferrules with respect to the reed.